

COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT NO.

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TOPIC Military Information from the Altengrabow Troop Training Grounds

EVALUATION 25X1 PLACE OBTAINED

DATE OF CONTENT 15 September to 30 October 1952 25X1

DATE OBTAINED E PREPARED 25 November 1952

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. &amp; TYPE) 25X1

REMARKS

REF ID: A6671  
DO NOT CIRCULATE

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1. On 20 October 1952, only the North Camp of the Altengrabow (M 53/2 00) troop training grounds was occupied by about 1,200 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. About 24 guns, including 122-mm and 152-mm guns, and motor vehicles were seen in the quartering area. All other hutments and quartering buildings were vacant.

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2. During the period from 15 to 22 October, the following troop movements were observed in the area of the Altengrabow troop training grounds:

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15 October. A column of 14 trucks, and occupied by about 110 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets; and field kitchen was seen on the Doernitz-Briesenthal road at 5 p.m.

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16 October. A column of 18 T-34/85 tanks, was seen on the Doernitz-Briesenthal road near Doernitz at 2 p.m.

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At 9 p.m., a troop train consisting of 2 boxcars carrying troops and an undetermined number of flatcars carrying 18 T-34/85 tanks passed through the Loburg railroad station, coming from Altengrabow and proceeding in the direction of Biederitz. the unit entrained was that observed near Doernitz at about noon on the same day.

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17 October. Two prime movers towing howitzers of about 203 mm caliber passed through Loburg toward the railroad station at 1 p.m. At 3:30 p.m., 18 T-34/85 tanks and 6 boxcarloads of troops were entrained at the Loburg railroad station. At 3:45 p.m., a troop train carrying 22 trucks, 1 field kitchen and 5 boxcarloads of troops passed through the Loburg railroad station proceeding toward Biederitz. At 5 p.m., a train carrying 8 jeeps with armored machine gun mounts, towing 76.2-mm field

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guns, left the Altengrabow railroad station.

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18 October. Two trucks towing field bakery trailers were loaded at the Altengrabow railroad station at 1 p.m.

20 October. At 7:15 p.m., 10 x 76-mm infantry guns, 12 trucks and 4 boxcarloads of personnel were entrained at the Altengrabow railroad station.

At 10 p.m., a troop train carrying 8 x 122-mm field guns and 5 boxcarloads of personnel left the Altengrabow railroad station, allegedly bound for Rathenow.

21 October. At 4 p.m., a troop train consisting of 8 boxcars occupied by troops, and an undetermined number of flatcars carrying 12 x 122-mm field guns, 8 trucks, several prime movers, and a carload of lumber passed through the Moeckern railroad station, coming from Loburg and proceeding in the direction of Biederitz.

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At 6:45 p.m., a train carrying 18 T-34 tanks and 5 boxcarloads of personnel passed through Moseckern, proceeding toward Biederitz. At 8:15 p.m., trucks and jeeps were entrained at the Altengrabow railroad station. No details on this shipment are available because of the darkness.

On 22 October, about 20 heavy tanks were observed engaged in driving practice at the Altengrabow training grounds, about 2.5 km east of Camp Altengrabow.

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25X1 1. [REDACTED] Comment. Although the estimated strength considerably exceeds the strength of a regiment, the North Camp was probably occupied by a regiment of the 14th (?) Army Artillery Brigade which is currently stationed there.

25X1 [REDACTED] Previous information indicated that the regiment had 24 x 152-mm howitzers. Another source reported that the regiment had 12 x 152-mm howitzers and 12 x 122-mm field guns and several 45-mm AT guns.

25X1 [REDACTED] The information contained in the present report vaguely confirms these data. [REDACTED] It is therefore possible that the regiment may be equipped with 122-mm howitzers instead of cannons. The evacuation of the other buildings checks with observations made at posts to which the troops stationed in Altengrabow had returned until 20 October or returned from the fall maneuvers of the Eighth Gds Army at that time.

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25X1 2. [REDACTED] Comment. The column seen on 15 October belongs to the Third Shock Army. During the period from 16 to 21 October, source saw 11 trains carrying units of the Eighth Gds Army and the IV Army Corps which, after participating in the maneuvers moved to their posts and included the following units:

At 1 p.m. on 17 October, a shipment of units of the 124th Hv How Artillery Brigade (US) whose detraining in Brandenburg was reported on 18 October.

At 5 p.m. on 17 October, a shipment of units of the 39th Gds Hvy Rifle Div.

18 October, a shipment of units of the 34th Artillery Div (US).

At 10 p.m. on 20 October, Presumably a shipment of units of the 34th Artillery Div (US), which, however, are believed to have gone to Potsdam. If the train was bound for Rathenow, it may have carried units of the 6th Artillery Div with 122-mm field howitzers.

At 4 p.m. on 21 October, a shipment of units of the 34th Artillery Div (US).

The other trains can be commented upon to the effect that at 9 p.m. on 16 October, 7:15 p.m. on 20 October, and 8:15 p.m. on 21 October, units of the 20th Gds Hvy Div and, at 3:30 p.m. on 17 October, units of the 39th Gds Hvy Rifle Div were seen. The first mentioned division had primarily entrained in Altengrabow-Ziesar and Buckau, while the last mentioned division entrained in Loburg.

25X1 [REDACTED] The drivers' practice on 22 October was possibly done by a tank unit of the Eighth Gds Army which was scheduled to follow the other units later.

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